

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Overview

Claims 1-6, 9-15, 17-28 and 30-40 remain in the application. Claims 1, 10, 11, 22, 28 and 34 have been amended. Claims 7, 8, 16, 29 and 41-48 have been canceled. Two new claims, 49 & 50, have been added. Applicants believe the amendments made herein and the additional claims add no new matter. Reconsideration and passage to issuance is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over either Furber (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2005/0121058) or Sowle (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2003/0168085) in view of McIntyre (U.S. Pat. App. Pub. No. 2005/0000551), Tuller (U.S. Pat. No. 5,603,431) or Russi (U.S. Pat. No. 5,131,487). These rejections are respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of elements set forth in independent claims 1 and 28 are not disclosed or rendered obvious by the prior art of record.

With respect to independent claim 1, applicants believe the references of record do not teach or suggest a dishwasher with a wash tub having top, bottom, side and rear walls, with the walls collectively forming an open-faced wash chamber for receiving utensils to be washed; a moveably mounted door movable between an opened position for providing access to the wash chamber, and a closed position for selectively closing the open-face of the wash chamber during the dishwashing cycle; a bulk wash aid dispenser mounted to an interior surface of the door for storing a supply of solid wash aid greater than that needed for a single dishwashing cycle; a fluid conduit in the door and in fluid communication with a spray nozzle, the spray nozzle mounted near a bottom wall of the bulk wash aid dispenser; a grid for supporting the supply of solid wash aid above the spray nozzle; and wherein a fluid is delivered from the spray nozzle through the grid and onto the solid wash aid for dissolving an amount of wash aid required for the single dishwashing cycle.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is allowable over the references of record. As claims 2-6, 9-15, and 17-27 depend either directly or indirectly from and further distinguish claim 1, they should be allowable as well.

With respect to independent claim 28, applicants believe the references of record do not teach or suggest a bulk wash aid dispenser for an automatic household dishwasher with a housing defining a bulk wash aid storage area; a dispenser door moveably mounted to the

housing moveable between an opened position and a closed position for selectively closing the bulk wash aid storage area; a bulk wash aid carrier mounted to an inner surface of the dispenser door and defining a chamber having a grid for supporting a bulk supply of solid wash aid, the chamber being accessible when the dispenser door is in the open position to permit the filling of the chamber with the solid wash aid; wherein the bulk wash aid dispenser stores a supply of wash aid greater than that needed for a single dishwashing cycle in the chamber; and a spray nozzle located within the housing to direct liquid spray into the chamber to effect the dispensing of an amount of wash aid required for the single dishwashing cycle.

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 28 is allowable over the references of record. As claims 30-40, 49 and 50 depend either directly or indirectly from and further distinguish claim 1, they should be allowable as well.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed or rendered moot. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to all of the outstanding rejections, and Applicants therefore respectfully request that this amendment be entered.

No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with this filing. However, please consider this a request for any extension inadvertently omitted, and charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1660.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims remaining in the application are allowable over the prior art of record. Early notification of allowability of all of the claims is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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